Unit 4: SUBJECT AND VERB

With past tense verbs, the formation of the verb is the same for all subjects. But in the present tense, the first word of the verb changes for 3rd person singular (Unit 2). However, the verb be is different.

All verbs except be

a PRESENT TENSE

3rd person singular (Unit 2)   All other persons
We use the s form (Unit 14).   Use base form (Unit 14).
She **likes** hot weather.   I **like** hot weather.
This heater **uses** gas.   These heaters **use** gas.
The game **has** finished.   The games **have** finished.
**Does** he play tennis?   **Do** you play tennis?

**NOTICE:** Only the first word of the verb changes.
We say:   The game has **finished**.   NOT has **finishes**
          Does he **play** tennis?   NOT does he **plays**

**NOTICE:** Modal verbs (Unit 27) do not have an s form.
We say:   He **will** come.   NOT wills come

b PAST TENSE

We use the past form (Unit 14) for all persons.

**The verb be**

1ST PERSON SINGULAR
I **am** tired.   I **was** tired.
I **am** going home.   I **was** going home.

3RD PERSON SINGULAR
Maria **is** tired.   Maria **was** tired.
She **is** going home.   She **was** going home.

ALL OTHER PERSONS
You **are** tired.   You **were** tired.
We **are** going home.   We **were** going home.
They **are** sleeping.   They **were** sleeping.

**NOTICE:** The other forms of be (be, been, being - Unit 16) are the same for all persons.